

In the early hours of the morning of 23rd August, on opening my back door, there, sat on the casing, was a perfect male *E. occulta*. It was exactly similar to the specimen illustrated in Souths' *Moths of the British Isles*, Vol. 1, pl. 57, fig. 4, and described as the black ab. *passetii* (Thierry-Mieg.).

On 29th August, again just before dawn, there was another male *occulta* sat on the house wall in pouring rain, this specimen was a shade lighter than the other. The last time I encountered this species was in 1964, at Bradford in Yorkshire, when four specimens were recorded, all of the much paler typical form.

Between 14th and 28th August, nine *L. solidaginis* appeared, none entering the trap. Only once previously have I had a single specimen of this species here. — J. BRIGGS, Frimley House, Deepdale Close, Slackhead, Beetham, Nr. Milnthorpe, Cumbria.

THE SCARCE BORDERED STRAW (*HELICOVERPA ARMIGERA* HB.) IN DORSET IN 1976. — On the 14th October, a Scarce Bordered Straw came to my m.v. trap here; and on 14th August the trap produced a male and female *Convolvulus* Hawk and again a male of the same species on the 17th August. — C. CATTELL, 9 Folly Lane, Wareham, Dorset.

EPIBLEMA GRANDAEVANA (L. & Z.) IN SUFFOLK. — During a holiday in Suffolk in 1976 I was collecting on the coast on 24th June and took a female specimen of *grandaevana* at light. Dr. Bradley, who determined the insect, tells me that he knows of no record of it being taken since the early 1900s, except for a recent one by D. A. Sheppard who caught a *grandaevana* on 24th July, 1972 at the mouth of Castle Eden Dene, Co. Durham (1976, *Ent. Rec.*, **88**: 136). — L. PRICE, 17 Glen Park Crescent, Kingscourt, Stroud, Glos.

OCTOBER IN SCILLY. — I made my annual bird-watching visit to the Isles of Scilly from 6th to 19th October, 1976—somewhat later than in previous years. This fact, together with the general unsuitability of the weather on some days accounts for the small number of butterflies seen. I recorded only four species: Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta* L.), small numbers on most suitable days. Speckled Wood (*Pararge aegeria* L.), very few. Large White (*Pieris brassicae* L.) and Small White (*P. rapae* L.), only one sighting of each. I also saw the Hummingbird Hawkmoth (*Macroglossum stellatarum* L.), two on each of St. Mary's and St. Agnes, and was informed by local naturalists that this species was much commoner than usual on the islands in 1976. — G. SUMMERS, 23 West Close, Stafford, Staffs.

SECOND BROOD NYMPHALIS IO L. — Second broods of this butterfly are not often found, so when I came across a large batch of larvae on 24th September, 1976, I decided to breed them. They were nearly full-fed and when collected were distributed between two cages, fifty larvae in Cage A and